

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

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R 241721Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3201

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, MILI, PFOR, PO, NATO, US

SUBJ: NATO AND US DEFENDED

REFS: (A) LISBON 3479

(B) LISBON 2971

SUMMARY: GOP DENIED THAT SPECIAL NATO COMMUNICATIONS UNIT
OPERATING IN PORTUGUESE POST/TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM IS
POLITICAL BODY COMPLEMENTING NATO. IN SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT
ADMIRAL AZEVEDO HAS RETURNED FROM MARITIME SYMPOSIUM IN US WITH
PRAISE FOR US ATTITUDES TOWARD PORTUGAL. END SUMMARY.

1. STATEMENT ISSUED JUNE 23 BY COMMUNIST-INFLUENCED (PROPAGANDA
AND DYNAMIZATION) FIFTH DIVISION OF ARMED FORCES GENERAL STAFF
REJECTED CHARGES MADE BY POST AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION THAT
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"COMPLEMENTARY ORGANIZATION TO NATO," STAFFED BY ELEMENTS LINKED

TO FASCIST REGIME AND ENGAGED IN ACTIVITIES OF POLITICAL NATURE, IS OPERATING WITHIN PORTUGUESE POSTAL AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK. FIFTH DIVISION'S DENIAL STATED THAT MIXED CIVILIAN/MILITARY GROUP WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1954, IN ACCORDANCE WITH OBLIGATIONS PORTUGAL ASSUMED UNDER NATO, TO CARRY OUT TECHNICAL JOB OF MAINTAINING SPECIALIZED NATO COMMUNICATIONS CIRCUITS. DENIAL ALSO SPECIFIED THAT CLASSIFIED WORK ENGAGED IN BY THIS UNIT IN NO WAY INVOLVES DOMESTIC PORTUGUESE MATTERS.

2. ADMIRAL PINHEIRO DE AZEVEDO RETURNED TO PORTUGAL JUNE 23 FROM WEEK LONG SEALINK SEMINAR IN U.S. ON WORLD MARITIME MATTERS. AMONG OTHER REMARKS OF SAME TYPE, ADMIRAL STATED: "I CANNOT CLASSIFY AS INCORRECT THE TYPE OF INFORMATION THE UNITED STATES HAS (ABOUT PORTUGAL). IT IS NOT FAVORABLE TO US, AS EVERYONE KNOWS, BUT AT THE LEVEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE THINGS ARE RELATIVELY CORRECT IN REGARD TO THE PORTUGUESE REVOLUTION." ADMIRAL AZEVEDO NOTED THAT U.S. AUTHORITIES DISPLAYED "SOME CONCERN" DURING WEEKEND BECAUSE OF PORTUGUESE POLITICAL CRISIS, BUT THAT US OFFICIALS REACTED IN "FRANKLY FAVORABLE" FASHION TO REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL'S DECLARATION (REF A).

3. COMMENT: ADMIRAL AZEVEDO'S COMMENTS ABOUT US ARE SIMILAR TO DECLARATIONS MADE AFTER THIS RETURN FROM LATE MAY NATO MEETINGS IN BELGIUM (REF B).
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